



National Park Service
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Interior

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Death Valley News Release

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National Park Service to Begin Installation of Second Phase of New Heating & Cooling System at Scotty's Castle

The National Park Service is tentatively scheduled to begin installation of a heating, venting, and air conditioning system (HVAC) in Scotty's Castle during the last week of May 2003. This is the third phase of a three-part project to enhance the preservation of the interior of the historic Scotty's Castle. The installation is expected to last six to eight months.

The work associated with this project will affect the annex or northern section of the main structure. It will include several guestrooms and the upper music room. The purpose of HVAC is to enhance the preservation of the fragile textiles, antiques, and original furnishings allowing the interior to be kept at an optimal temperature. It will also enhance the guided tours allowing the house to maintain a comfortable temperature for visitors and employees.

This project is expected to impact the current living history tours being conducted on site by the National Park Service. The majority of the tour is conducted in the main

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house structure where phase II of the HVAC project was completed in 1998. This will continue to be done so with minimal impact from the project. Phase III will affect the annex portion of the structure. The final portion of the tour will be altered daily to accommodate the project as needed. Alternative routes will take visitors into other areas of the house and/or other sections previously closed. During the course of the project the theatre pipe organ, a popular attraction for most visitors, will be out of order for its protection.

The National Park Service will continue to offer the technology tours throughout the summer, these will be by request and as staffing allows. Please call in advance of your arrival to ensure that we will have these tours available at 760-786-2395 ext. 226.

The National Park Service was planning to raise tour fees for Scotty's Castle by October 2003, but this decision has been delayed until January 2004 or until the HVAC project is completed. Fees are expected to increase one dollar per person.

For more information, please contact the National Park Service at Scotty's Castle at 760-786-2395 or 760-786-2392. Group Reservations will begin again in November 2003, for more information about group visitation contact Scotty's Castle at 760-786-2392 ext. 224.

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